

"China Seas"—M-G-M—With Gable, Harlow, Beery Plays to S.R.O. Business
Loew's Toronto

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 27, No. 21

TORONTO 2, CANADA

Sept. 14th, 1935



NEVER LET A
**MOMENT
GO BY**

*without
telling
your
public—*

**BROADWAY
MELODY of 1936**
is the Greatest Screen Show Ever Made—

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2



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The sensational success of GARBÖ
 "ANNA KARENINA" establishes the 2nd G
 hit of M-G-M's Mightiest Year!

- ★ Great business everywhere. It even tops the famed record-ho
 "China Seas" in many spots (for instance, Boston, Bridgep
 Harrisburgh, New Haven, New York, Pittsburgh, Reading, Springg
 Philadelphia).
- ★ Hold-overs already announced from Coast to Coast.
- ★ Acclaimed by critics over the entire nation as Garbo's Gre:at
- ★ And now, gentlemen of the motion picture industry, wait
 watch for M-G-M's "BROADWAY MELODY of 1936".

All praise to them! Greta Garbo, Fredric March, Freddie Bartholomew in Clarence Brown's product
 "ANNA KARENINA" Will M. O'Sullivan, M. P. ...

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RAY LEWIS
Editor and Managing Director

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SOCIAL CREDITORS



WHILE we are toying with the "Soak the Rich" legislation of our U.S. cousins in the Ray Presents column, let us observe Canada, the other important part of

the American continent. The province of Alberta, famous, among many things, for the ranch of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and for sending the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett as a member to Ottawa, through which support and election the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett became Leader of the Conservative Party; and in the last Dominion election, of 1930, Prime Minister of Canada, this Province of Alberta which has been well-remembered in the legislation introduced by the Bennett Government, has established the first Social Credit Government.

The victory of the Social Creditors does not hang by a hair, since the whole Alberta Cabinet has been defeated. Every minister, including the Hon. R. E. Reid, Premier of Alberta, and Leader of the United Farmers' Government for the past fifteen years, has suffered a decisive defeat. Only one Liberal and one Conservative have, in the recent election, been elected. Forty-seven Social Creditors have been returned, out of a House of sixty-three.

Mr. William Aberhart, the Social Credit Evangelist Chief, will be Premier. He is the founder of the Prophetic Bible Institute, housed in a sixty thousand dollar building, from which building there are broadcasts, and literature which teaches the principles of Social Credit in a correspondence course.

Major C. H. Douglas, a Londoner, whose propaganda tours awakened so much interest in Canada, propounds economic doctrines similar to the Social Creditors.

One proposal is reminiscent of Dr. Townsend's Old Age Pension Plan which he endeavored to hand as a present to the State of California. Townsend proposed to give those sixty and over, two hundred dollars a month, making the spending of this money compulsory within the

month. Married couples of the eligible age received four hundred monthly. Everyone who could come to California came for the four hundred. It was surprising to hear the cheers from the public for such legislation.

Why wouldn't they cheer? Those who were to receive the four hundred monthly would not be taxed to support it; and there is no easier money to spend than the other fellow's.

Sacramento had a few more such ideas, taxation specially designed for the Industry of Motion Pictures. The Industry owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. Louis Mayer of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer pictures for his persistent and great effort to defeat some of these ideas from being legislated.

THE SCOT AND JEW

JOHN BUCHAN, Lord Tweedsmuir of Elsfield, Governor-General-elect of Canada, author of that phenomenally successful Gaumont-British picture, "39 Steps", which Alfred Hitchcock directed, and which is enjoying close to a three months' run at the Marble Arch Pavilion, recently commented on the similarity between the Scot and the Jew, when acknowledging the Freedom of the City of Edinburgh, which was conferred on him at Usher Hall, Edinburgh, by the Lord Provost Sir W. J. Thomson.

"It is a platitude," he said, "that we are a far-wandering race; that, like the Jews, we are spread over the earth, wherever we go, get our roots deep down and find a permanent habitation, but, unlike the Jews, we have never lost our homeland."

"39 Steps" will be released by Regal Films, in Canada, in October, the Governor-General will be in Canada at the time and may be present at the premiere showing of the picture.



RAW



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

I NOTE that the "Soak the Rich" bill of Uncle Sam has passed, and that the House of Representatives of the United States in its eleventh hour legislation also passed the Neutrality Bill and an Amended Utilities Bill.

The "Soak the Rich" bill invokes the following taxation; First, increase in the rates of present estate taxes, beginning with an impost of two percent on estates of more than forty thousand dollars, and ranging upward to a maximum of 70 percent on that part of any estate which is in excess of fifty million dollars.

Exhibitors and Distributors in the United States, if you happen to have an estate of about fifty-five million dollars, Uncle Sam will take three million five-hundred thousand of the five million, which still leaves you fifty-one million, five-hundred-thousand; of which fifty million is still taxable on the new sliding scale of taxation.

I AM particularly drawing the attention of exhibitors to this taxation, for I remember years ago that Mr. Adolph Zukor said that "the control of the Industry is at the box-office". The box-office is the recipient of cash, therefore, exhibitors control the industry through the Public's money.

Exhibitors may argue with me that a goodly portion of this cash goes into taxation, to the Distributors for their pictures, but if I tell the Distributors that they have the cash, their alibis will be that they give it to the Producers. If I say to the Producers, you are the rich whom legislation will soak, they will argue that much of the cash they receive goes to stars, directors, authors, the expense of production; and if I say to the stars, directors, authors, that Uncle Sam is soaking the rich and that they are in for the proposed "Soak", they will laugh it off and say, "You forget the taxes we already pay, the depreciation in our incomes through depreciated capital, etc."

HOWEVER, let us consider the next "Soak the Rich" item; increases in individual surtaxes, beginning on incomes of more than fifty thousand dollars, and graduating to a maximum of 75 percent on incomes in excess of five million dollars.

If a star has an income of five million, five-hundred-thousand dollars, that star will pay Uncle Sam three hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars of the five-hundred-thousand, plus a trifle by way of taxes on the five million. However, such income and taxation is

no star's worry, since million dollar incomes are not to be found in the heavens, but possessed by those who own the earth.

It looks as if the Millenium is coming for the Poor Relations, for even if blood is not thicker than water, it is thicker than the blood which exists between magnates and the new legislators; the former will be searching to find the veins and arteries of the family tree, in order to sustain the tree. It will be nice when Poor Relations are obliged to pay income tax and pray for Uncle Bill.

And then there is the increase in the capital stock tax to about one and a half dollars for every thousand dollars.

A NEW graduated corporation tax of 12½ percent on net corporation income up to two thousand dollars; 13 percent from two thousand to fifteen thousand dollars; 14 percent from fifteen thousand dollars to forty thousand dollars; and 15 percent in excess of forty thousand dollars. The total taxes in the "Soak the Rich" bill amount to two hundred and sixty million dollars. Even in Conservative London, such taxes are deemed "terrific".

The "Amended Utilities Bill" is headlined in the London Daily Mail as a "Death Sentence". The Mail's Correspondent refers to it as follows: "The Amended Utilities Bill", which is considered as the equivalent of a "death sentence" on utility holding companies, instructs the Securities Exchange Commission to dissolve all Utility Holding Companies as soon as is practicable after January 1st, 1938, except those operating single systems which are in the public interest.

Holding Companies are not unknown in the Motion Picture Industry. Perhaps God Was With the American Film Industry when it was inspired to be interested in British Pictures; and the British Film Industry became such an attractive field for British and American Finance and Enterprise. As Gracie Allen would say, "Do you catch on?"

THE Holding Companies have about two years and four months in which to put their houses in order, and that word, or clause which reads, "as soon as is practicable" is open to legal interpretation. It may be "practicable" for you, much sooner than it is for me, and it may not be practicable for either you or me until 1939; also there may be a new Government in the United States which will conclude that the whole idea is impracticable.

(Continued on page 5)

**Toby Wing, Star of Booth Canadian Production "The King's Plate"
To Wed Jackie Coogan**

Conklin in Winnipeg

*Lyceum, Starland, College Theatres, Winnipeg,
Under Control Canadian Theatre Company*

THE Lyceum, Starland and College Theatres in Winnipeg have passed from the control of the Universal Film Corporation of New York and are now being operated by a new company.

The new operating firm, the Canadian Theatre Company, is composed of Winnipeg capitalists with Jack Miles as general manager. Mr. Miles now operates the Uptown, Roxy, Rose, Plaza and Palace Theatres in Winnipeg and suburbs, under the name of the Allied Amusements Ltd. With the new company's houses he will operate eight theatres in Winnipeg, one the Lyceum, first run, and the others, neighborhood houses.

In preparation for the opening the Lyceum Theatre, closed August 23 and reopened by the new owners on Saturday, August 31, the theatre was renovated and re-decorated, modernistic electric fixtures were installed, as well as Dunlopillo cushion seats. It will also be provided with a new Frigidaire cooling system and air conditioning plant.

Starland and College Theatres were not closed as these houses underwent the process of renovation comparatively recently.

LOUIS SOLOMAN, 26, an employee of Crescent shows, touring British Columbia towns, was drowned in Kalamalka Lake near Vernon, B.C., Sept. 4, when he got into difficulties while swimming from a boat. Solomon joined Crescent shows Sept. 1st. He had previously been assistant manager at the Regent Theatre, Winnipeg, and came originally from St. Laurent, Man., where his parents live.

New Theatre For Vancouver

CONTRACT for construction of a motion picture theatre at Dunbar and Thirtieth Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. was let Sept. 6 to the Carter-Halls-Aldinger Co., of Winnipeg, it is announced by J. H. Boothe of the Vancouver Auto Club and promoter of the project. The cost will be \$30,000.

The theatre will have seating accommodation for 800 persons. It has been designed along modern lines by David Colville, and the Northern Electric Co. has been awarded the contract to provide its latest sound equipment, known as the Western Electric "Wide Range. Heating and ventilation have received special attention, and a new type of opera chair has been ordered. Neon electric signs play an important part in the frontal display.

Clergyman Honors Memory of Will Rogers

REV. CANON BERTAL HEENEY, rector of St. Luke's Anglican Church, Winnipeg, paid a fitting tribute to the late Will Rogers.

"Will Rogers gave us clean humor, and because of his noble, rugged honesty he was superb on the screen," declared Canon Heeney. He expressed the hope that a fitting monument in memory of Will Rogers will be erected in Washington.

Canon Heeney favored a closer co-operation between the film producers and the church in elevating art to higher levels.

Ray Presents

(Continued from page 4)

Still it is best to expect the worst, even if one is prepared to accept the best. Forewarned should be forearmed. Every legislative act of this nature educates the public what to ask for. The ounce of prevention is still far ahead of the pound of cure.

The Neutrality Bill enforces neutrality on the United States until Feb. 1st, 1936, and places an embargo on the supply of arms and munitions to any belligerent. Senator Robinson, Democratic Leader, said, "If any foreign Government is proceeding on the theory that this Government or its resources, either in Man-power or wealth, will contribute to the adjustment of European controversies they are misled."

AMERICA could be one of the most powerful of nations in maintaining the Peace of the world. With John Bull and Uncle Sam, the British Empire and the United States both determined that "there shall be no more of war", swords would be beaten into ploughshares.



THE Manitoba executive. Imperial Daughters of the Empire, met in Winnipeg recently to formulate arrangements for the semi-annual meeting to be held Oct. 3. The executive endorsed the following resolution in response to a request from the Winnipeg Council of Social Agencies: "That the organization go on record as being in favor of the campaign for better moving pictures for children as seen in the request that residential theatres, at least, put on special shows suitable for children under twelve on Saturdays."

USED THEATRE SEATS FOR SALE

800 Red Leather Upholstered	
Backs and Bottoms	- \$2.50 each
500 Green Leather Upholstered	
Backs and Bottoms	- \$3.00 each
1,000 Veneer	- 75c each
<i>All in Good Condition.</i>	

MAVETY FILM DELIVERY

277 Victoria St. - Toronto, Ont.

Haskell Masters, Canadian General Manager United Artists Leaves for New York to Assume Office of Foreign Representative of U.A.

Lulu in Hollywood

AN afternoon on the set for "Metropolitan", a Darryl production for 20th Century-Fox starring Lawrence Tibbett.

It is one of the scenes from "Carmen" and the Senoritas and Troubadors look very gay. Director Richard Boleslawski does not seem given to haste or loud words — everything runs along smoothly — and the only thing I heard was "that was very good".

Mr. Zanuck has budgeted \$4,000,000 to make eight pictures, of which "Metropolitan" is the first. This is the first picture for Mr. Tibbett in four years, during which time he has been busy with grand opera and radio. He played in many Canadian cities.

The story reveals that he is trying to get by with his singing, and seems to take to crooning in order to put himself over. His instructor is in despair — then Tibbett shows what he can do, sinks down into despair, and is told that if he works hard for twenty-four hours for one day, he will be able to sing — but no time for anything else. "What, no time for spaghetti?"

What a voice!! His mother always had ambitions for him, and took him to parties from the time he was four, because he knew how to sing "Jesus is my Sunbeam". Imagine her chagrin when he was so frightened, he could not sing it, so they compromised. They sang the Star Spangled Banner, with the "company" helping out. And lo and behold when Young Tibbett tried to make the Glee Club at school he failed. Well, he does not fail in this picture.

Virginia Bruce was chosen by Mr. Zanuck to play opposite Tibbett because of her work as Jenny Lind in "The Mighty Barnum", and so she was borrowed from M-G-M.

A little visit with Caesar Romero, a modest, charming young man, not anxious to say much about himself. He did not tell me that five years ago he was playing in a touring show called "Strictly Dishonorable" with Bessie Love. Margaret Sullavan was the understudy for Bessie Love, and when Miss Love fell ill, Miss Sullavan took the part, and made quite a success. Caesar Romero is in "Metropolitan".

And then Mr. Louis Alberni — do not know when I have had as many laughs. His description of the early days of his career, when he was doing one night stands of "Mutiny" in Co. No. 8 — the fact that his dear mother is a blond, blue-eyed Spanish lady, and his father, although born in Milan, Italy, has lived in Spain almost all his life, Louis having been born in Barcelona, and has never even been to Italy — his trials and tribulations because they refuse to cast him in a Spanish role — and mostly his inability to find any place where they can make spaghetti — was a whole show on its own.

Although he has been on the stage for thirty-two years, being in America twenty of these — he did not go into pictures until five years ago. It seems he received a wire from a producer to come on in a hurry. He borrowed \$150.00 and came, and could not get into the studio for ten days. His money ran out, the superintendent at the studio was ill — so he got himself another job. Seven weeks later he saw the man who sent for him — said Mr. Producer, "Have you any idea why I sent for you?" "No," sez Louis. "Well stick around and don't worry." "Don't worry — I got to act, because I got to eat." There was more, much more, but it will have to keep.

PREVIEW of "Steamboat Round the Bend", Fox production by Sol M. Wurtzlel. Directed by John Ford. Will Rogers as the skipper of a wreck of a boat dubbed a "hen-coop", finds his nephew Duke (John McGuire) has killed a man in self-defense. The only witness being the "New Moses" (Berton Churchill). Duke brings the swamp girl he loves (Anne Shirley) and for whom he has murdered a man, to Rogers, and gives himself up to the law. Two things must be done. New Moses must be found, as well as money to defend the boy. Will Rogers puts a conglomeration of wax figures on Board for a "show" incidently bumping up against Irvin S. Cobb, a rival skipper. There is to be a race, and a bet is made between Rogers and Cobb, Rogers betting that his "Claremore Queen" will beat the "Pride of Paducah". Since Rogers has to stop to inquire about the New Moses it slows him up, but Moses is found on a dock, roped like a steer, dragged through the river on board, and helps stoke the fires, but at that the tub does not come up to speed specifications. Since Will is the ropinest man, he lassos himself on to the wheel of the "Pride of Paducah" until he is discovered — from then on it's a race. No fuel, so the wax figures are thrown into the fire, and then accidentally a bottle of the famous medicine which Will has been peddling, "Pocohantas", is thrown into the fire — a terrific blaze — and you know what happens to the stock on hand. Francis Ford as the engineer who has sworn off liquor, seems to take to "Pocohantas" — Stepin Fetchit is all over the place, talking mostly. Pocohantas wins the race for Rogers, he gets the cup, saves the boy for the swamp girl, and you have the wedding n'everything. Picture gets off to a slow start, but makes up for lost time P. D. Q.

PREVIEW of "Here Comes Cookie", a Paramount production by William LeBaron, directed by Norman McLeod. Original by Sam Mintz and Don Hartman. Photographed by Gilbert Warrenton, A.S.C.

Cast: George Burns, Gracie Allen, George Barbier, Betty Furness, Andrew Tombes, Jack Powell, Rafael Storm and others.

If you were never crazy before, you will be when you see Gracie crazier than ever, with the help of George, the splendid supporting cast plus twelve vaudeville acts. Taking a leaf from Eve, there is a series of turnovers. Father, Harrison Allen (George Barbier) turns over his millions to Gracie in order to prevent his daughter Phyllis (Betty) marrying a fortune hunter, Ramon Del Ramos (Rafael). Gracie in turn, turns over the beautiful home into a home for out-of-work vaudeville troupes — and eventually turns the place into a theatre.

Father goes to the country to make his poverty seem realistic — and Gracie makes it just that when she fails to send him a dime for expenses. The troupes all over the place rather get into George Burns' hair, but he has to take it and like it. Gracie shows her ability to dance as well as sing in one of the numbers — and her Juliet, with the butler Botts (Andrew) as Romeo, is something to be remembered for a series of good hearty laughs.

It's a typical Gracie Allen-George Burns picture, only more so.

**Coming to Royal Alexandra, Toronto, "The Crusades" De Mille Production—
"Midsummer Night's Dream," Warner Bros.**